



**ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS
FINANCIAL SERVICES DIVISION**

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January 29, 2008

The Honorable Marc Basnight
President Pro Tempore, North Carolina Senate
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

The Honorable Joe Hackney
Speaker, North Carolina House of Representatives
Co-Chair, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

Dear President Basnight and Speaker Hackney:

Section 11 of S.L. 2007-393 provides that the AOC Director's duties include analyzing the use of contractual positions in the Judicial Department and, after consultation with the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations, converting contractual positions to permanent positions when the Director determines that it is in the best interests of the Judicial Department to do so. This letter is intended to meet the consultation requirement prior to converting certain contractual positions to permanent positions.

At this time, the Judicial Department has determined that the conversion of certain positions is necessary for more effective court operations in the Guardian ad Litem program (GAL). As such, we are requesting the conversion of three GAL contract attorney positions into three GAL staff attorney positions in Wake, Guilford, and New Hanover counties. It is our belief that converting these contractual positions to permanent positions will result in increased efficiency in meeting the growing demands of the juvenile court system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ralph A. Walker", written over a light gray rectangular background.

Ralph A. Walker